

Sepik Iwam language

Sepik Iwam, or **Yawenian**, is a language of Papua New Guinea. It is the lexical basis of the Hauna trade pidgin.

It is spoken in villages such as Iniok (4.29131°S 142.006892°E) in Tunap-Hunstein Rural LLG of East Sepik Province.^[4]^[5]

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Phonology

Sepik Iwam consonants are:^[6]

p	t	k	
b	d	g	
s			h
m	n		
	r		
w	j		

Sepik Iwam vowels are:^[6]

i		u
e	ə	o
a		

Pronouns

Sepik Iwam pronouns:^[6]:282

Sepik Iwam	
Yawenian	
Region	East Sepik Province
Native speakers	2,500 (2000 census) ^[1]
Language family	<div>Sepik <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upper Sepik<ul style="list-style-type: none">Iwam<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sepik Iwam</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	iws
Glottolog	sepi1255 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/sepi1255) ^[2]
Coordinates: 4.29131°S 142.006892°E<div><div></div></div>	

Hauna pidgin	
Region	East Sepik Province
Native speakers	<i>None</i>
Language family	Iwam-based pidgin
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	<i>None</i> (mis)
Glottolog	haun1238 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/haun1238) ^[3]

	sg	du	pl
1	ka	kərar	kəram
2	kə	kow	kom
3m	si	sow	səm
3f	sa		

Grammar

Sepik Iwam subject agreement suffixes are:^[6]

	singular	dual	plural
masculine	*-ən	*-o	*-əm
feminine	*-a		

The structure of this subject agreement paradigm can be traced back to Proto-Sepik, although the morphemes themselves do not seem to be directly related to the reconstructed Proto-Sepik forms. (See also *Sepik languages#Gender*.)

References

1. Sepik Iwam (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/iws/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Sepik Iwam" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/sepi1255>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Hauna Trade Language" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/haun1238>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
4. Eberhard, David M.; Simons, Gary F.; Fennig, Charles D., eds. (2019). "Papua New Guinea languages" (<https://www.ethnologue.com/country/PG/languages>). *Ethnologue: Languages of the World* (22nd ed.). Dallas: SIL International.
5. United Nations in Papua New Guinea (2018). "Papua New Guinea Village Coordinates Lookup" (<https://data.humdata.org/dataset/village-coordinates-lookup>). *Humanitarian Data Exchange*. 1.31.9.
6. Foley, William A. (2018). "The Languages of the Sepik-Ramu Basin and Environs". In Palmer, Bill (ed.). *The Languages and Linguistics of the New Guinea Area: A Comprehensive Guide*. The World of Linguistics. 4. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton. pp. 197–432. ISBN 978-3-11-028642-7.

Further reading

- "Organised Phonology Data" (http://www-01.sil.org/pacific/png/pubs/0000309/Sepik_Iwam.pdf) (PDF).

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